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CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY

REPORT NO.

INFORMATION REPORT

CD NO.

Germany (Soviet Zone)

DATE DISTR.

21 August 1950

SUBJECT

COUNTRY

2d Volkspolizei Bereitschaft of Land Brandenburg in Pinnow

NO. OF PAGES

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- The 2d VP Bereitschaft of Land Brandenburg was stationed at the former ammunition depot, Pinnow, prior to early June 1950. The depot had previously been used by Land Brandenburg as a children's village.
- The Bereitschaft, with a strength of about 50 officers and 1,000 police, was organized into a headquarters and four Kommandos. There was no Sondereinheit or special unit.
- The officers included: Oberpolizeirat Stiebeling (fnu), PK-Leiter, 40 years old, 180 cm tall; Oberkommissar Schoebel (fnu), director of training, 45 years old, 165 cm tall; Polizeirat Hitzinger (fnu), administrative and supply officer, 45 years old, 175 cm tall; and Kommissar Loerch (fnu), operations officer, 26 years old, 170 cm tall.
- The Bereitschaft had four T-34 tanks, four Soviet 75-mm SP guns, four Soviet four-wheel armored scout cars, seven American-made full-track ammunition carriers used for training drivers, seven or eight model-34 light machine guns, and an undetermined number of 98K carbines, submachine guns models 38, 42 and 44, and 7.65-mm pistols models 08 and 38.
- The motor vehicles of the Bereitschaft were trucks which were four Horchs and Fords, five passenger cars, and one Java motorcycle.
- The training program included driving armored vehicles, instruction on tanks and motors, tactical classes, and political indoctrination which gave preference to the history of the Communist Party of the U.S.S.R. over German historical topics.

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- 7. Two Abteilungen of the 2d Kommando were transferred to the Boitzenburg VP school in late April 1950. Some personnel of the Bereitschaft were detached to a signal course at the Potsdam-Eiche Bereitschaft. Very few new personnel arrived recently. The average age of the men was about 21 years.
- 8. The personnel of the Bereitschaft came from all parts of the Soviet Zone of Germany. Most of the new arrivals at the Bereitschaft were Saxons.
- 9. About 50 percent of the personnel belonged to the FDJ. The percentage was low, since many police had withdrawn from the Bereitschaft's FDJ group after an unspecified incident. Twenty percent of the personnel, most of them men with long service, were members of the Bereitschaft's SED group. *

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This confirms and supplements another report.